

No 22

CATMAN

"AMERICA'S MOST THRILLING FAST-ACTION ADVENTURE STORIES!"

COMICS

10¢



[illegible]

THE CATMAN

and the KITTEN

BY
CHAS. M.
QUINLAN

YOU NEVER CAN TELL WHAT STRANGE ADVENTURES MAY LURK JUST AROUND THE CORNER--EVEN AN ORDINARY COMMONPLACE SALUTATION MAY BE THE GRIM FOREBODING OF DANGER, INTRIGUE, AND SUDDEN DEATH, FROM CASUAL INSIGNIFICANT TRIVIALITIES, --FATE MAY WEAVE THE WEB THAT ENSNARES HER VICTIMS, THEN CASTS THEM, BOUND AND HELPLESS, INTO THE "HANDS OF DESTINY!"

IT IS JUST AFTER DARK, AND CAPTAIN MERRYWEATHER AND KATIE CONN, HIS WARD, ARE RETURNING FROM A WALK.

COME ON KATIE! HEY-- WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT NOW?

OH, NOTHING UNCLE DAVID! JUST A DRESS!



-- ANYHOW,--
YOU WOULDN'T BE
INTERESTED!

OH, IS THAT SO --/
YOUNG LADY HOW DO
YOU KNOW WHAT I
WOULD OR WOULD NOT
BE INTERESTED IN/
WHICH ONE IS IT??

THAT ONE THERE--
THE ONE WITH THE
FANCY BEADED
GIRLPLE / ISN'T
IT LOVELY??

IT CERTAINLY IS-- BUT
DON'T YOU THINK IT
WOULD BE A LITTLE
TOO LARGE FOR YOU?
AFTER ALL-- YOU ARE
STILL JUST A LITTLE
GIRL!

AW--UNCLE DAVID--
YOU'RE JUST SPOOFING
ME!

ON THE CONTRARY KATIE!
I'M SERIOUS,-- PARTICULARLY
IF YOU NOTICE THE BACK!
SEE -- IT'S REFLECTED IN
THE MIRROR!--HEY!!--
WAIT A MINUTE --
HOLD EVERYTHING!!

WHAT IS IT?
TELL ME--?
I DON'T SEE
ANYTHING!!

NO KATIE -- YOU
NOR A MILLION
OTHERS WOULDN'T
SEE IT-- BUT IT'S
THERE!! AND
THAT REALLY IS
QUITE A DRESS!--YES,
-- QUITE A DRESS!!

GEE YOU'RE ACTING
AWFULLY MYSTERIOUS!
WHAT IS IT??

NOTHING, KATIE! C'MON,
LET'S GO!! WE'LL DROP
BACK TO-MORROW!
I WANT TO SEE IT
IN THE DAYLIGHT!

AS THE CATMAN AND THE KITTEN PASS AN
ALLEY ADJOINING THE DRESS SHOP-- THE
CATMAN STOPS SUDDENLY--!!

COME ON KATIE -- THERE'S
SOMETHING IN THIS ALLEY!
LOOKS LIKE THE BODY OF
A MAN!!

HUH--
WHERE?

GOOD LORD-- IT'S A
SOLDIER --!! WAIT--
KATIE HOP BACK AND
SEE IF THERE'S A
CAB AROUND??

JUST AS KATIE DASHES BACK OUT ON THE
STREET-- A TAXI APPEARS FROM AROUND
THE CORNER!!

HEY!-- HEY TAXI--
OVER HERE!!

THE NEAREST
DOCTOR, BUDDY
AND STEP ON
IT!

HEY-- WHAT HAPPENED
TO HIM? HE AIN'T
DEAD, --IS HE?

THERE'S A "DOC"
THREE BLOCKS
DOWN! WE'LL
BE THERE IN A
FEW MINUTES!

HE'S NOT DRUNK!
IS HE, UNCLE
DAVID??

NO-- HE DOESN'T
SMELL OF LIQUOR!
--HE'S EITHER
SICK, OR HURT!
HERE'S THE
DOCTOR'S
OFFICE! WE'LL
KNOW IN A
MINUTE!

GEE -- POOR
GUY! -- HE'S WHITE
AS A GHOST!

AS THE CATMAN PICKS UP THE UNCONSCIOUS MAN-- THE TAXI DRIVER DASHES INSIDE AND SUMMONS THE DOCTOR!!

IT'S A SOLDIER, DOC! THE GUY WITH HIM SAYS HE AIN'T DRUNK--BUT HE SURE LOOKS IT TO ME!!

THANKS FOR YOUR DIAGNOSIS--BUT I BELIEVE I'LL HAVE A LOOK AT HIM ANYHOW! --BRING HIM IN HERE!



IN HERE-- GENERAL!!

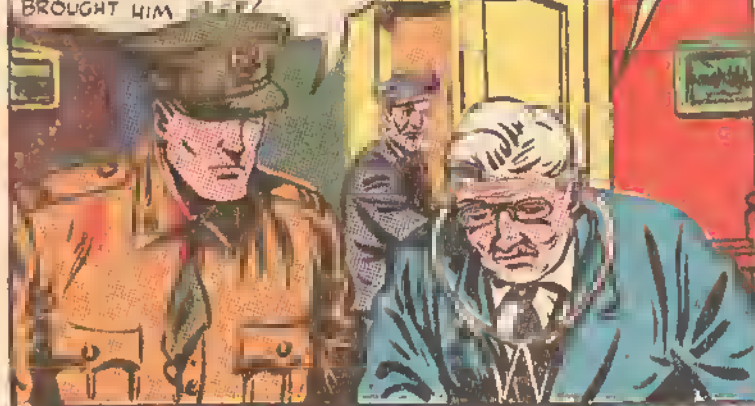
GOOD EVENING CAPTAIN-- WHAT HAPPENED--TO HIM??

WAIT IN THE ANTI-ROOM KATIE!!



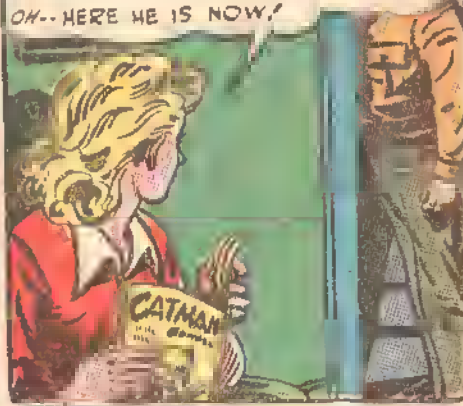
I HAVEN'T THE SLIGHTEST IDEA, DOCTOR! I DISCOVERED HIM IN AN ALLEY--THERE WERE NO INDICATIONS THAT HE HAD BEEN DRINKING--SO I BROUGHT HIM

HM--AND A GOOD THING YOU DID CAPTAIN--I'M AFRAID HE'S IN A PRETTY BAD WAY! OH--GOOD HEAVENS--



HALF HOUR LATER--

GEE, I WISH UNCLE DAVID WOULD HURRY UP AND COME OUT!--I'M JUST BUSTING TO KNOW WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THAT SOLDIER! OH--HERE HE IS NOW!

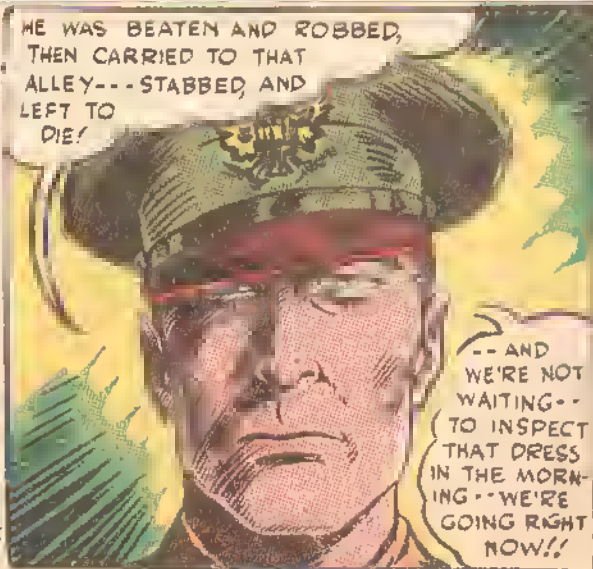


WHAT'S UP UNCLE DAVID?--IS HE-- IS HE--?

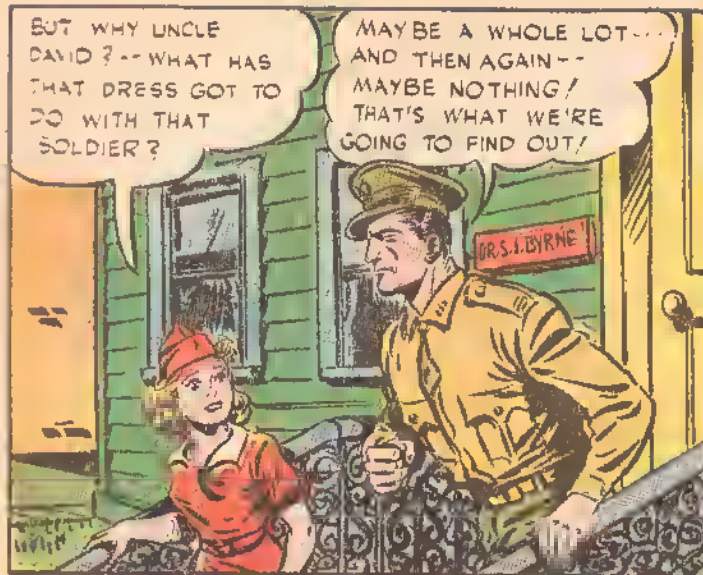
NOT QUITE KATIE-- BUT HE'S IN A BAD WAY-- STILL UNCONSCIOUS--



HE WAS BEATEN AND ROBBED, THEN CARRIED TO THAT ALLEY---STABBED, AND LEFT TO DIE!



--AND WE'RE NOT WAITING-- TO INSPECT THAT DRESS IN THE MORNING--WE'RE GOING RIGHT NOW!!



BUT WHY UNCLE DAVID?--WHAT HAS THAT DRESS GOT TO DO WITH THAT SOLDIER?

MAYBE A WHOLE LOT-- AND THEN AGAIN-- MAYBE NOTHING! THAT'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT!



WALKING SWIFTLY THE TWO SOON TRAVERSE THE FEW BLOCKS FROM THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE!!

NOW TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THAT DRESS!!

GEE, I DON'T GET THE CONNECTION AT ALL!!



ARRIVING IN FRONT OF THE SHOP, THE CATMAN LOOKS SHARPLY AT THE DRESS, SUDDENLY HIS BROWS KNIT INTO A DEEP FROWN!!

THAT SETTLES IT!--CMON, LET'S GO KATIE!



COMPLETELY PUZZLED BY THE CATMAN'S STRANGE ACTION THE KITTEN TROTS FAITHFULLY BY HIS SIDE, AS HE AGAIN WALKS SWIFTLY TOWARDS THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE!

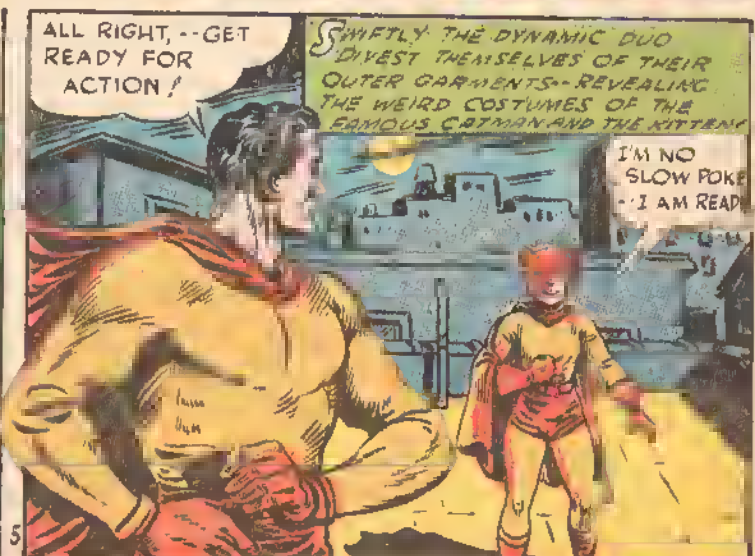
THEN SUDDENLY--

QUICK KATIE-- IN HERE!!



HEY--WHERE ARE YOU GOING!

TO THE ROOF-- WE'LL START WORKING FROM THERE!



ALL RIGHT,--GET READY FOR ACTION!

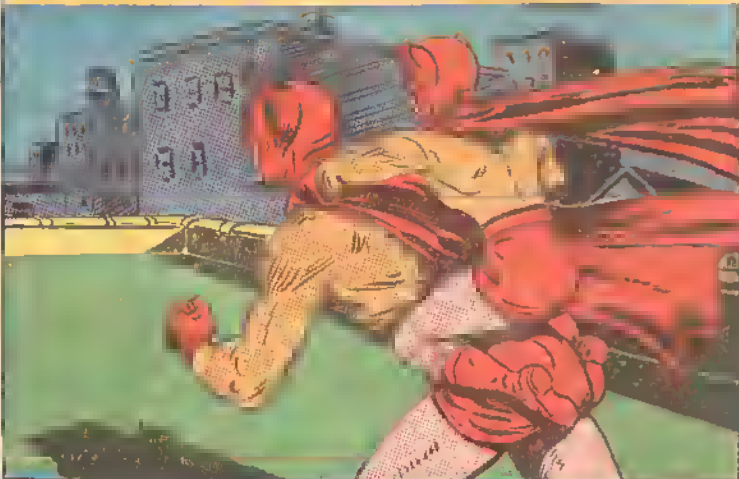
SWIFTLY THE DYNAMIC DUO DIVEST THEMSELVES OF THEIR OUTER GARMENTS--REVEALING THE WEIRD COSTUMES OF THE FAMOUS CATMAN AND THE KITTEN

I'M NO SLOW POKE-- I AM READY

GET ABOARD--WE'VE GOT
TO GET TO THE ROOF
OF THAT DRESS SHOP!



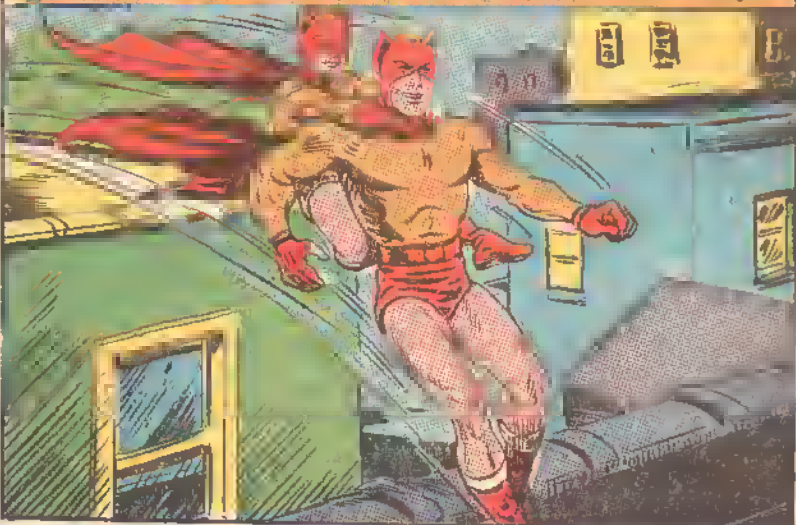
WITH THE KITTEN CLINGING TO HIS BACK--THE
CATMAN STARTS TROTGING ACROSS THE ROOF TOWARD
THE INTERVENING TWENTY FOOT WIDE ALLEY!



THEN PUTTING FORTH A SUDDEN
BURST OF SPEED--



LIFE SPRINGS EFFORTLESSLY ACROSS THE DANGEROUS GAP!



THIS IS IT!--
THAT DOOR LEADS
DOWN! CAREFUL
NOW!-- FROM HERE
ON ANYTHING CAN
HAPPEN!



STEALTHILY, HE TRIES THE DOOR!-- IT'S
UNLOCKED!-- WITH THE KITTEN TAGGING
CLOSE BEHIND, HE SLIPS INSIDE AND MOVES
QUICKLY DOWN THE DIM-LIT STAIRWAY!



SUDDENLY HE STOPS--HIS UPRaised HAND WARNS THE KITTEN!



REALIZING THAT THE SHARP BARS OF THE CATMAN HAS DETECTED SOMETHING UNHEARD BY HER--SHE WAITS WITH BATED BREATH FOR HIS NEXT MOVE!



INTENTLY, THE CATMAN LISTENS THROUGH THE TIGHTLY CLOSED DOOR--AUDIBLE TO HIM ARE A MYRIAD OF MUSHED VOICES!



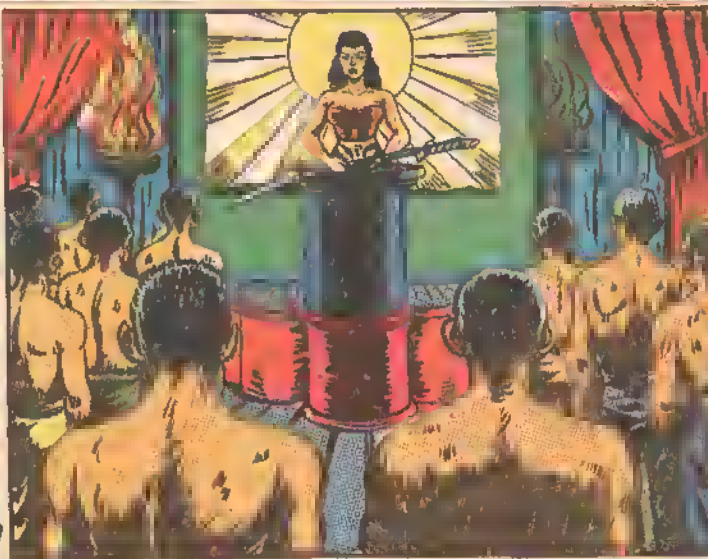
BECKONING TO THE KITTEN--HE CAUTIOUSLY TURNS THE DOOR KNOB!



SILENTLY,--AS GHOSTS THE INTREPID PAIR SLIP INSIDE--" THEY FIND THEMSELVES IN A SHORT HALL AT THE END OF WHICH GLOWS A PALE GREEN LIGHT!--THE HIGH PITCHED, YET MUFFLED VOICES ARE NOW CLEARLY DISTINCT!



PEERING AROUND THE CORNER, THE CATMAN BEHOLDS A SIGHT THAT SENDS A CHILL THROUGH EVEN HIS STRONG HEART!



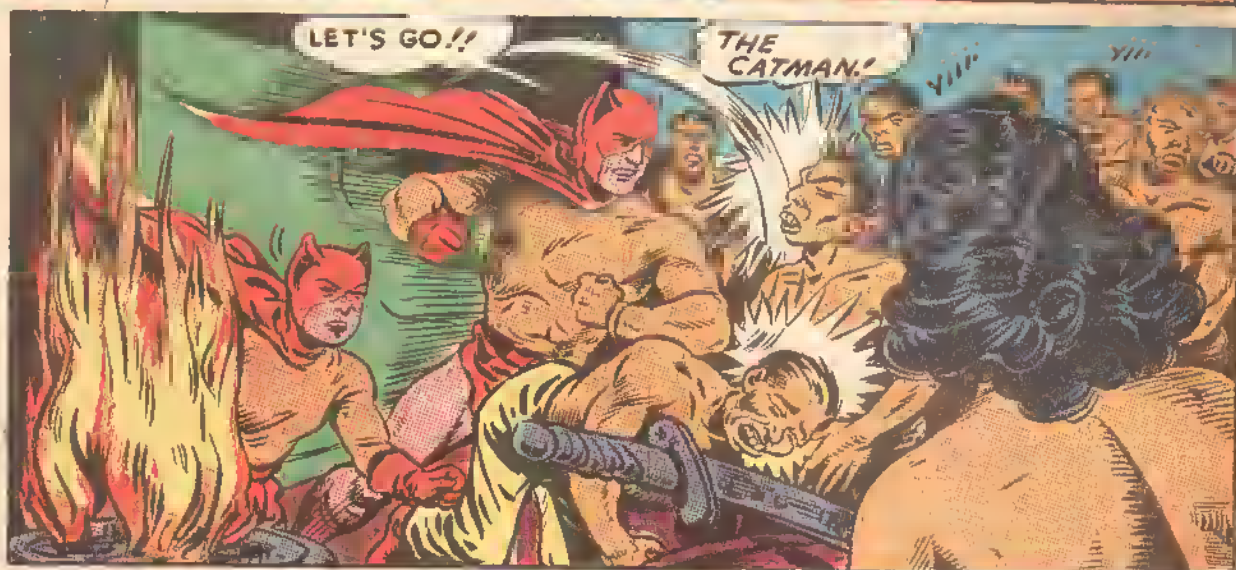


THE CATMAN
BENDS DOWN AND
GIVES
INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS
MEN



WHILE THE WOMAN CONTINUES TO SPEAK THE
CATMAN BENDS DOWN AND GIVES
INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS MEN

NO TIME TO TELL YOU WHAT
SHE'S SAYING, NOW KITTEN, --
BUT THEY ARE THE MOST
DANGEROUS GANG WE HAVE
EVER ENCOUNTERED!
I'M GOING TO TACKLE
THE MEN, YOU GET
THE WOMAN! -- READY?



LET'S GO!!

THE CATMAN!

YIII

YIII



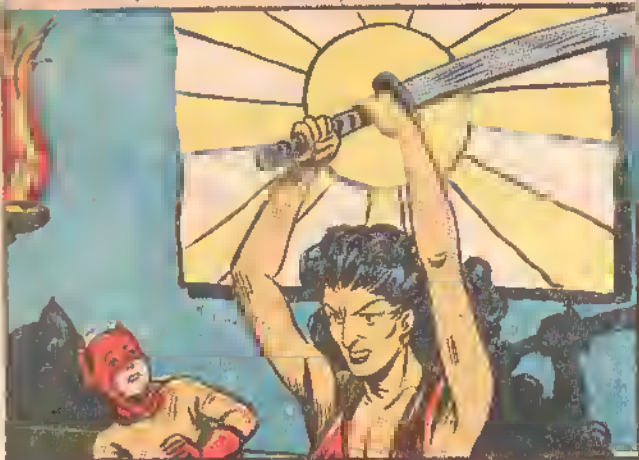
WHILE THE CATMAN'S FLYING FISTS BEAT A
MURDEROUS TATTOO ON THE MILLING JAPS,
THE KITTEN DIVES AT THE WOMAN!



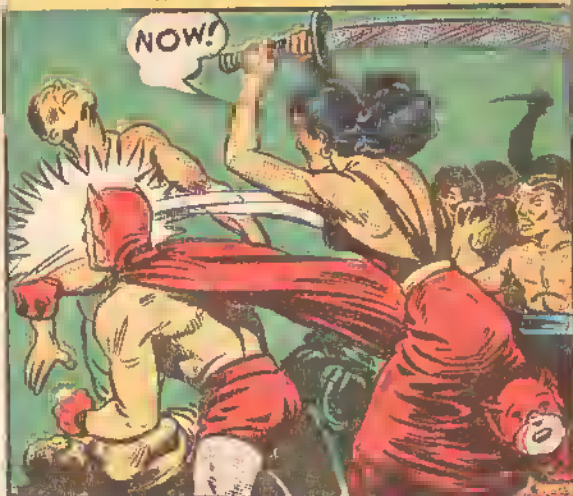
BUT---

FOOL!!

QUICKLY RAISING THE DEADLY TWO HANDED SAMURAI SWORD, -- SHE HOLDS IT POISED, HIGH ABOVE HER HEAD! --



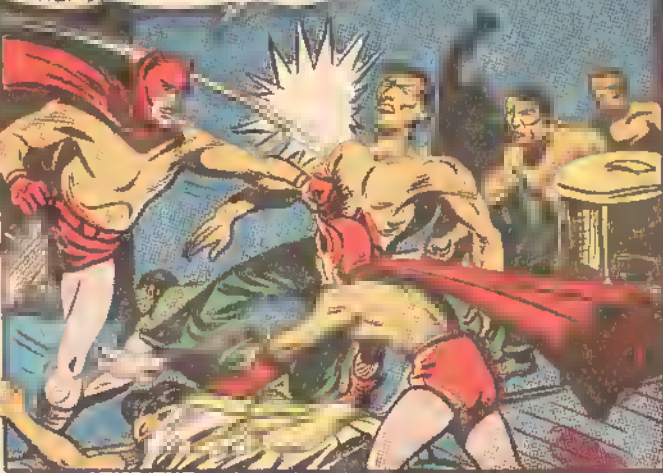
--- THEN, AS THE CATMAN PASSES WITHIN RANGE! --



BUT THE KITTEN RECOVERS JUST IN TIME -- PULLS THE JAP FLAG FROM THE WALL, -- AND --



GOOD GIRL KATIE!! THAT'S USING YOUR HEAD!

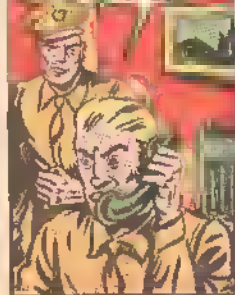


AS KATIE QUICKLY TRIPS UP THE SCREAMING AND STRUGGLING WOMAN, THE CATMAN POLISHES OFF THE LAST JAP!

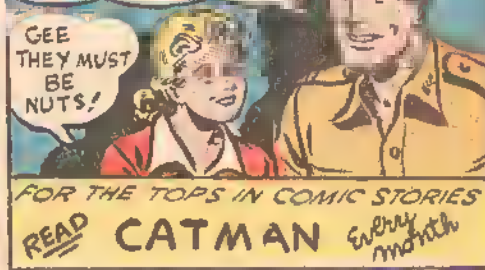


2 FEW MINUTES LATER, ARMY HEADQUARTERS GETS A STARTLING PHONE CALL!

WHO? -- THE CATMAN? OKAY, WE'LL HAVE A PLATOON OF MILITARY POLICE THERE IN FIVE MINUTES!



LATER -- YES KATIE -- THE GIRL WAS INSCRIBED WITH JAP WRITING WHICH I CAN READ! THEY NOTIFIED THEIR MEMBERS TO ATTEND MEETINGS THAT WAY! THEY WERE ALL DYED-IN-THE-WOOL BELIEVERS IN BUSHIDA! THEY WELCOME DEATH IF THEY CAN DESTROY THEIR ENEMIES BY DYING -- THAT SOLDIER MUST HAVE STUMBLED ON THEIR HANG-OUT AND THEY GAVE HIM THE WORKS!



GEE THEY MUST BE NUTS!

FOR THE TOPS IN COMIC STORIES
READ CATMAN every month

THE DEACON AND MICKEY BATTLE AGAINST THE DEMONS OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION....

UP FROM THE BOWELS OF A MAN MADE HELL CAME THE DEMONS OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION! LURED ON WITH AN INSATIABLE THIRST FOR GOLD, THEY REPRESENTED ALL THINGS FOUL! CAN THE DEACON AND MICKEY OVERCOME THESE FANTASTIC FIENDS? SHALL THE PAGES OF HISTORY BE WRITTEN IN THE BLOOD OF THOSE WHO TRIED TO STOP THESE ARCH-FANATICS? BUT READ ON AND LEARN THE SECRET OF "THE DEMONS OF DEATH"



DEACON and MICKEY and "THE DEMONS of DEATH"

DRAWN By JACK
Alderman

STORY By JACK
Grogan

Midnight... AND THE DEACON AND MICKEY ARE INTERRUPTED FROM THEIR SOLITARY READING BY A WEIRD CRY!

FER GOSH SAKES, DEACON, WHATS THAT?

SOUNDS EERIE! ... AND NEAR HERE, TOO! LET'S INVESTIGATE!

PUSHING ACROSS THE MARSH LAND, THEY HALT AT THE SIGHT OF

GEE. . GEE DEACON IT'S A MAN!

YES, A MAN AND DEAD TOO! I'M AFRAID!

HE'S ABOUT DONE FOR, I THINK. I'M GOING TO TAKE THIS KNIFE OUT OF HIS BACK!

GEE WHIZ! DEACON, WHO COULD HAVE DONE IT?

THE MAN TURNS OVER, AND IN DYING GASPS SAYS...

THOSE DEMONS OF DEATH-- ROBBERD ME MADE ME COME HERE

HE'S DYING!

WHO DID IT?

I DON'T KNOW! LOOK! MICKEY! LOOK! DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

GOSH! ALMIGHTY!

BEFORE THE EYES OF THE ASTONISHED PAIR, IS A SCENE, EVER TO BE STAMPED IN THEIR MEMORY..

GOSH! THEY LOOK LIKE... LIKE DEVILS!

... AND THIS MAN SAID "DEMONS OF DEATH." I WONDER IF THEY. . ?

HMM! THE DEMONS OF DEATH! QUITE AN APPROPRIATE TITLE FOR FIENDS LIKE THOSE WHO MURDER AT MIDNIGHT!

SHALL WE CALL THE POLICE?

YES! WE'LL CALL IN
THE POLICE, ANONY-
MOUSLY, OFCOURSE
I'D LIKE TO TACKLE
THIS MYSTERY
THERE'S MORE TO IT
THAN WHAT APPEARS
ON THE SURFACE

I'M WITH
YOU 100%
DEACON!



TO-MORROW ON THE STROKE OF
THE HIGH MOON WE RAID THE
CENTREVILLE BANK! AND FROM
IT WE GET GOLD GOLD GOLD!
GOLD TO BUY US THE THINGS WE
NEED!



AND IN LESS TIME THAN IT TAKES
TO SAY, THE ROBBERY IS COMPLETED.

THEY'RE NOT
DEVILS! IT'S
MONEY THEY'RE
AFTER!

I'M AFRAID
THEIR HUMAN
MUCH TOO HU-
MAN, MICKEY!



SEVERAL HOURS LATER, NOT FAR AWAY, A STRANGE RITUAL IS
TAKING PLACE...

OH! MIGHTY ONE; WE
DID AS YOU COMMANDED!
WHEN BANKER CALDRON
APPEARED AT THE APPOINTED
SPOT, WE MURDERED HIM IN
ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR
PLANS!

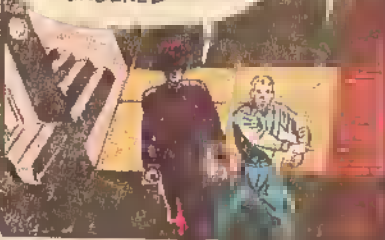
IT IS GOOD! HEAR
ME, ALL OF YOU!



NEXT DAY, A FEW MINUTES BEFORE
NOON, THE DEACON IS WALKING

I MUST APPEAR
AT THE POLICE STA-
TION TO VERIFY MY
PHONE CALL ABOUT
THE MAN WE FOUND
MURDERED!

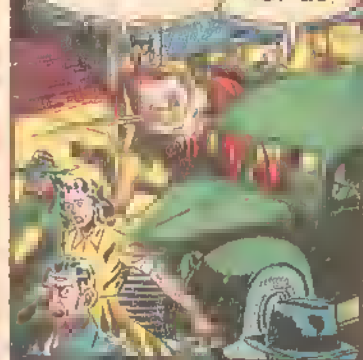
DEACON!
DEACON!
LOOK!



A HORRIFYING SIGHT CURE
THEIR ASTONISHED EYE

THE GOLD!
THE GOLD
FROM THE
BANK! THAT'S
WHAT WE WANT!

SHOOT TO
KILL ANY
FOOL WHO
TRIES TO
STOP US!



THE DEACON AND MICKEY LIS-
TEN AS THE BANK OFFICIALS
EXPLAIN THE ROBBERY TO POLICE!

AND THEY KILLED THE
GUARDS! THEY GOT AWAY
WITH FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS,
AND MR CALDRON, OUR PRESIDENT
HAS DISAPPEARED!

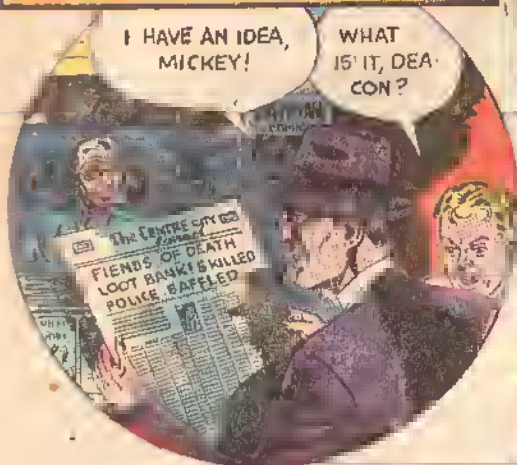
LET'S GO
MICKEY!



SEVERAL HOURS LATER, SCREAMING HEAD-
LINES APPEAR IN CENTRE CITY JOURNAL....

I HAVE AN IDEA,
MICKEY!

WHAT
IS IT, DEA-
CON?



IF I WORD THE RIGHT
AD IN THE CENTRE
CITY "PERSONALS"
COLUMN, I THINK
WE'LL GET RESULTS
BUT...



... ARE YOU
GAME, MICKEY?
WE'RE TAKING
OUR LIVES IN
OUR HANDS IN
COMMUNICATING
WITH THESE KILLERS!

PLEASE,
DEACON...
DON'T
EVER ASK
ME IF I'M
AFRAID
YOU
KNOW
I'M NOT.



NEXT
DAY
GLEAMING
EYES READ
THE DEACON'S
MESSAGE...

LISTEN! IT SAYS: FIENDS
OF DEATH! I KNOW WHO
YOU ARE! I AM GOING TO
EXPOSE YOU, IF YOU DON'T
COMMUNICATE WITH ME AT
ONCE... SAVE YOUR LIVES
I WILL BE ON SPRING STREET
AT 8:30 P.M. THE DEACON!

THE DEACON!
WHAT DOES
HE KNOW?

SEND LOUIE
OVER HERE
AT ONCE!



THAT NIGHT AT 8:30, THE DEACON AND MICKEY
WALK DOWN SPRING STREET, WHEN SUDDENLY...

OH! OH! MICKEY! OUR
AD GOT RESULTS!

WHO IS IT?



YOU DE DEACON? HERE
DIS IS FOR YOU... I'M SUP-
POSED TO WAIT FOR
AN ANSWER...!

THANKS?



THE DEA-
CON OPENS
THE LET-
TER AND
READS
IT'S CON-
TENTS

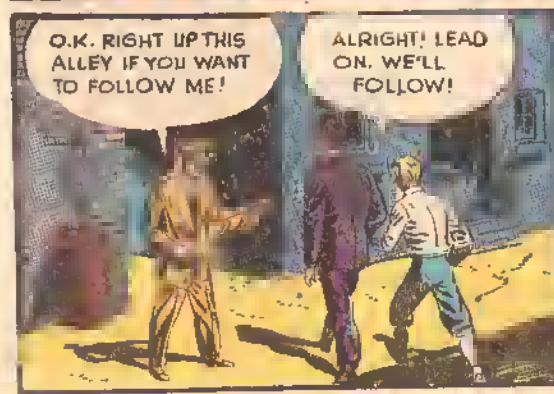
THEY WANT US TO
FOLLOW HIM....
REMEMBER WHAT
I SAID ABOUT YOUR
LIFE IN YOUR HANDS
... STILL AFRAID?

ARE YOU
KIDDIN'
DEACON?

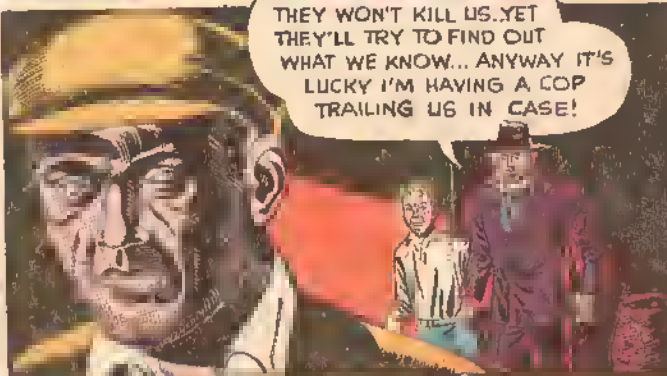


O.K. RIGHT UP THIS
ALLEY IF YOU WANT
TO FOLLOW ME!

ALRIGHT! LEAD
ON. WE'LL
FOLLOW!



THEY WON'T KILL US.YET
THEY'LL TRY TO FIND OUT
WHAT WE KNOW... ANYWAY IT'S
LUCKY I'M HAVING A COP
TRAILING US IN CASE!



SUDDENLY, FOUL
BLOWS ARE
RAINED
FROM BE-
HIND AND
THE DEA-
CON AND
MICKEY GO
DOWN...

TAKE 'EM TO THE HIDEOUT
QUICK! SATAN WANTS TO
TALK TO 'EM!

LATER,
THE DEA-
CON AND
MICKEY
REVIVE
IN WEIRD
SURROUND-
INGS...

OH! MY HEAD...
I EXPECTED THIS
MICKEY, I...

SOMEONE'S
COMIN' DEA-
CON!

SOON A
HORRIBLE
FACE
GLARES
DOWN AT
THEM...

SO! YOU HAVE REVIVED!
COME... FOLLOW ME... I
WILL TAKE YOU TO SATAN
HIMSELF!

WONDER WHAT'LL
HAPPEN TO US
NOW?

I DON'T
KNOW...
BUT WE'LL
SOON FIND
OUT!

AH! THE DEA-
CON! AND HIS
YOUNG PROTE-
GEE... WHAT A
TREAT THIS IS!

IT'S
NO TREAT
FOR US!

SILENCE, FOOL! DON'T YOU
KNOW THAT YOUR LIVES
ARE HANGING IN THE BA-
LANCE OF WHAT YOU KNOW!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW
ABOUT US?

NOTHING...EX-
CEPT THAT YOU'RE
ALL A BUNCH OF
PHONIES RUN-
NING AROUND
WITH MASKS
AND COSTUMES
OH!

SO! YOU KNOW
NOTHING! THAT IS
GOOD! THAT MAKES
THE WORK OF DIS-
POSING OF YOU TWO
SO MUCH THE EASIER!
SIEZE THEM, MEN!

VERY WELL... BEFORE YOU
SEND US TO OUR DEATHS
WILL YOU TELL US THE MY-
STERY OF THE DEMONS
OF DEATH!

VERY WELL... I'LL TELL YOU, SEEING THAT
YOU FOOLS HAVEN'T LONG TO STAY ON
THIS EARTH... YES, YOU ARE RIGHT, THESE
ARE MASKS WE HAVE, BUT WE ARE THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CENTER CITY
BANK... WE PLANNED TO USE THIS MEANS
OF EMBEZZLEMENT MONTHS AGO. I AM

PIERRE LAMARTE
THE VICE-PRESI-
DENT. WHEN
AUGUST CALDRON
OUR PRESIDENT
REFUSED TO FALL
IN WITH US, WE
JUST...

DISPOSED OF HIM, THE SAME WAY
YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO DIS-
POSE OF MICKEY AND I... WELL YOU'VE
GOT ANOTHER THING COMING, MR.
SATAN LAMARTE! LET'S GO, MICKEY!

WITH FLYING FISTS, AND RIGHTEOUS HEARTS THE DEACON AND MICKEY TEAR AWAY FROM THE FIENDS, FIGHTING SWIFTLY....



I DON'T LIKE YOUR UGLY FACE!

HERE'S A PRESENT FROM ME TO YOU!



A BRIEF LULL IN THE FREE-FOR-ALL AND.

THIS WAY, MICKEY!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
I'VE GOT THE EVIDENCE
I WANT...

I'M WITH
YOU....
DEACON!



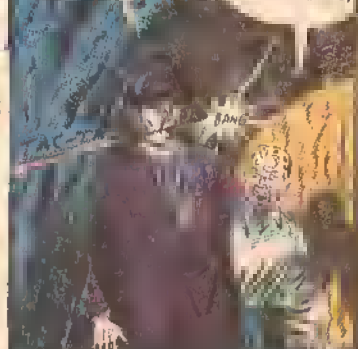
BUT ANOTHER FIGURE JOINS THE
ESCAPE IN THE CAVE.

THIS WILL TEACH YOU
MEDDLING PESTS TO
STAY WHERE YOU BE-
LONG!



DUCK, MICKEY!
DUCK!

WHEW!
THAT WAS
A CLOSE
SHAVE....
DEACON!



THIS IS GETTING US
NOWHERE! I'M GOING
AFTER THAT RAT,
MICKEY!

BUT, DEACON!



WE'LL SEE WHO
WINS OUT... HEAVEN
OR HADES..





SATAN, EH? YOU'LL WISH YOU WERE BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM, YOU MURDERING RAT!

POW!



YOU DIRTY BACK-STABBER!

POW!



UNKNOWN TO DEACON ANOTHER DEVIL STANDS UP FROM BEHIND...

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS BIRD, SATAN!

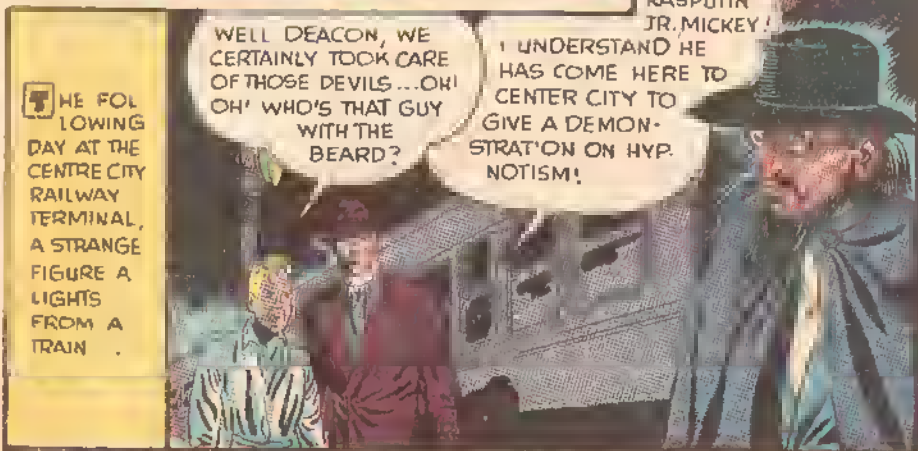
DEACON! DEACON! LOOK OUT!

SMASH



SAY, LOOK, DEACON THE COPS ARE COMING. THAT COP MUST HAVE TRAILED US HERE!

SPLENDID! IT'S JUST WHAT I EXPECTED!



THE FOLLOWING DAY AT THE CENTRE CITY RAILWAY TERMINAL, A STRANGE FIGURE A LIGHTS FROM A TRAIN

WELL DEACON, WE CERTAINLY TOOK CARE OF THOSE DEVILS... OH! OH! WHO'S THAT GUY WITH THE BEARD?

I UNDERSTAND HE HAS COME HERE TO GIVE A DEMON-STRATION ON HYPNOTISM!

THAT'S RASPUTIN JR. MICKEY!

What Weird role is the SON of the MAD MONK RASPUTIN going to play in the lives of The DEACON and MICKEY?

FOLLOW THE THRILLING ADVENTURES of 'DEACON & MICKEY'

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF

Catman COMICS

the **LITTLE LEADERS**

starring

"MICKEY" and the "KITTEN"



MICKEY AND THE KITTEN START OUT TO SCALE THE PEAK OF MTELEMONS

HOPE WE MAKE IT! THE TOP HAS NEVER BEEN REACHED BY MAN!

HOLD ON, KITTEN--- WE HAVEN'T FAR TO GO AFTER THIS LEDGE!

MICKEY! THERE GOES MY CLIMBING PICK!

THE FULL HORROR OF THE SITUATION DAWNS ON MICKEY, AS HE SCRAMBLES SAFELY OVER THE ROCKY LEDGE!

KITTEN! HOLD ON TO THAT STUMP AND PRAY THAT THIS ROPE IS STRONG!

MICKEY! HURRY! THIS STUMP IS GOING FAST! **SAVE ME!!!**

PHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE SHAVE, KITTEN! BUT WE MUST KEEP GOING!

THAT'S FUNNY! THERE ARE STONES SET IN THERE TO REACH THE TOP! LIKE STEPS! I WONDER

WELL, WE MADE IT, MICKEY!

YES, BUT I HAVE AN IDEA WE'VE RUN INTO SOMETHING ELSE!

I GET THE SAME REACTION AS YOU, MICKEY! THE PLACE SEEMS INHABITED! I CAN SENSE IT!

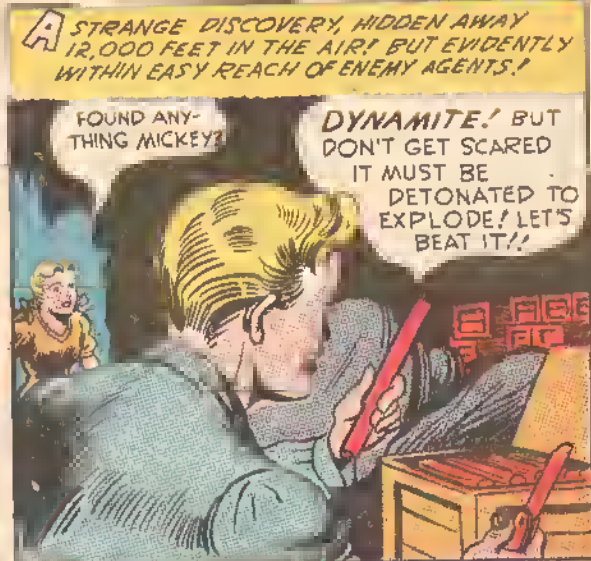
LET'S LOOK AROUND!

LOOK! IN THE VERY PEAK! A CAVE! LOOKS INTERESTING! COME ON!

THEY REACH THE TOP BUT THERE IS SOMETHING SINISTER--UNREAL, AN AIR OF MYSTERY!



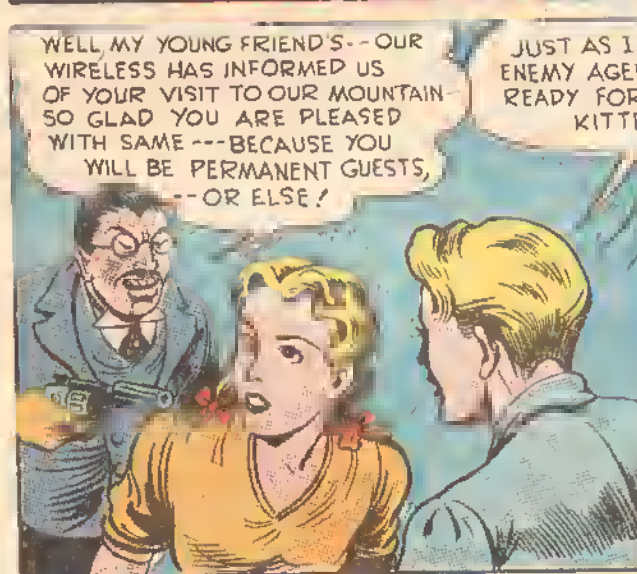
A CACHE! AND THE BOXES HAVE JAPANESE CHARACTERS ON THEM. BETTER STEP OUTSIDE, KITTEN--I'M GOING TO PRY ONE OPEN!



A STRANGE DISCOVERY, HIDDEN AWAY 12,000 FEET IN THE AIR! BUT EVIDENTLY WITHIN EASY REACH OF ENEMY AGENTS!

FOUND ANYTHING MICKEY?

DYNAMITE! BUT DON'T GET SCARED IT MUST BE DETONATED TO EXPLODE! LET'S BEAT IT!



WELL MY YOUNG FRIENDS--OUR WIRELESS HAS INFORMED US OF YOUR VISIT TO OUR MOUNTAIN--SO GLAD YOU ARE PLEASED WITH SAME---BECAUSE YOU WILL BE PERMANENT GUESTS, ---OR ELSE!

JUST AS I SUSPECTED, ENEMY AGENTS!! GET READY FOR ACTION KITTEN!



STEP BACK LIKE NICE CHILDREN--NO MUSCULAR EXHIBITION IF YOU PLEASE! I HAVE SILENCER ON GUN AS YOU SEE! THERE WILL BE NO ECHO FROM SHOTS!

OKAY, HIROHITO (LET'S GO KITTEN!)



THIS'LL SETTLE YOUR SUKIYAKI!--! HAND ME THAT ROPE, KITTEN!!

IT WILL DO YOU NO GOOD MY JUVENILE SAMSON-- IN A FEW SECONDS MY ASSOCIATES WILL BE HERE!

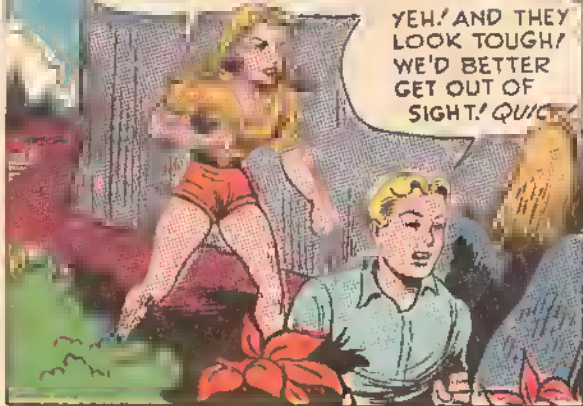
OKAY! YOU'RE ONE LESS!

I, AT LEAST, GAVE YOU YOUR BREAK-- PERMIT ME TO OBSERVE, YOU WILL NOT BE TREATED SO CONSIDERATELY BY THE OTHERS-- I ADVISE YOU TO RELEASE ME, SO I CAN INTERCEDE!

AFTER DEPOSITING THEIR CAPTIVE IN ANOTHER CAVE, MICKEY AND KITTEN DECIDE TO CHANCE IT, AND DESCEND THE MOUNTAIN!

MICKEY! WE'RE TOO LATE! HERE THEY COME!

YEH! AND THEY LOOK TOUGH! WE'D BETTER GET OUT OF SIGHT! QUICK!



I NEED ACCOMPANY YOU NO FURTHER! THE EXPLOSIVE IS IN THE CAVE AT THE TOP! THESE LOW CASTE ORIENTALS ARE TO CARRY IT DOWN-- WE WILL DISCUSS FURTHER PLANS AT OUR RENDEZVOUS TONIGHT!

IT IS DONE EXCELLENCY-- WE MEET TO-NIGHT!



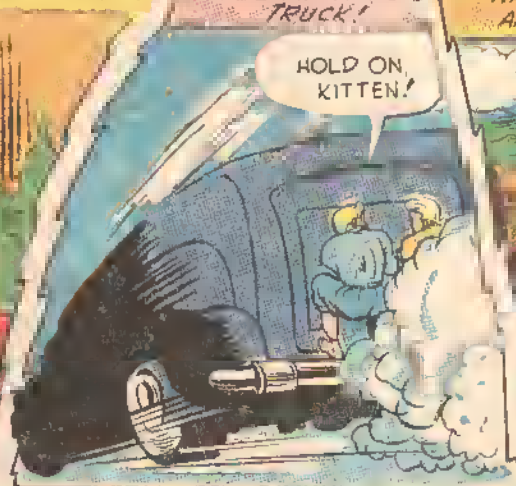
FROM THEIR VANTAGE POINT, THE TWO FALS WATCH THE DYNAMITE BEING CARRIED AWAY!

WE'VE GOT TO FOLLOW AND SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT KITTEN!



UNSEEN THEY HOP ABOARD THE BIG TRUCK!

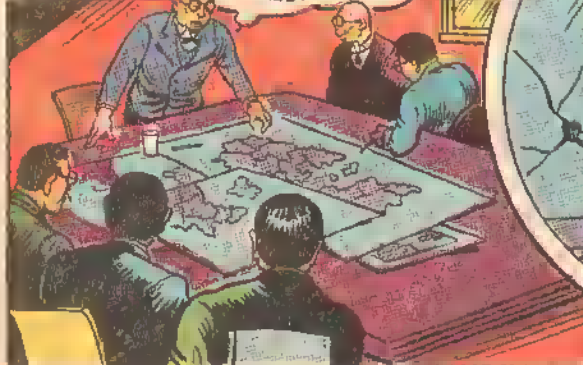
HOLD ON, KITTEN!



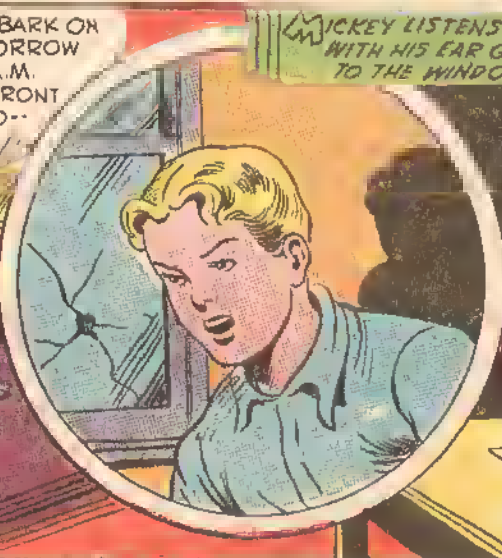
THE TRUCK STOPS AT A WATERFRONT HOUSE AND THE KIDS HOP OFF!



GENTLEMEN, WE ARE NOW READY TO EMBARK ON OUR CAMPAIGN OF DESTRUCTION! TO-MORROW WE DELIVER OUR FIRST BLOW! AT TEN A.M. THE MAYOR STARTS A BOND DRIVE IN FRONT OF CITY HALL! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO-- FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS TO THE LETTER! THAT IS ALL!



MICKEY LISTENS IN WITH HIS EAR GLUED TO THE WINDOW!



ONE MORE DETAIL GENTLEMEN! DO NOT FAIL! CAPTURE MEANS DEATH!



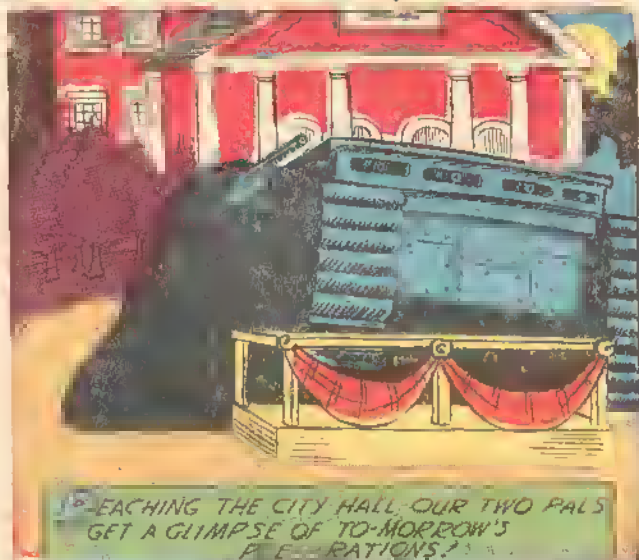
A QUICK DASH TO THE TRUCK, AND OUR ADVENTURERS DRIVE OFF WITH IT!

STEP ON IT, MICKEY. YOU KNOW THE DIRECTION?

LIKE A BOOK, PARTNER!

WE MADE THE CITY LIMITS IN NO TIME! I'M HEADING FOR THE CITY HALL! I'LL TURN ON THE RADIO!

"OUR MAYOR WILL ADDRESS YOU TO-MORROW, AFTER THE PARADE IN FRONT OF CITY HALL - A NEW TANK IS ON EXHIBITION THERE - DON'T MISS IT!"



THEY'RE HERE! AND THEY'RE LOADING THE DYNAMITE IN THE TANK - THE FIENDS!

YEH AND ENOUGH OF IT TO BLOW UP THE WHOLE TOWN! WE'D BETTER LAY LOW AND WATCH - WE'RE OUTNUMBERED!



EXHAUSTED, THE KIDS DECIDE TO HIDE IN THE BUSHES AND AWAIT DAYLIGHT!

I'M SLEEPY, MICKEY. MIND IF I STEAL FORTY WINKS?

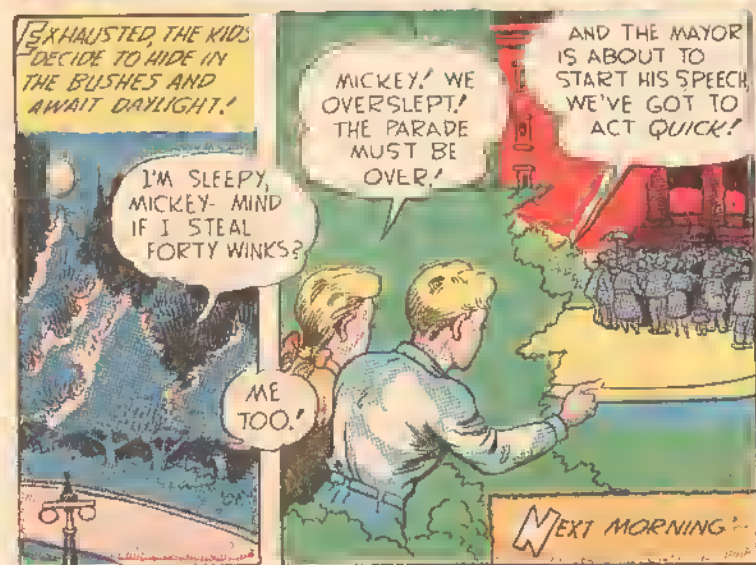
ME TOO!

MICKEY! WE OVERSLEPT! THE PARADE MUST BE OVER!

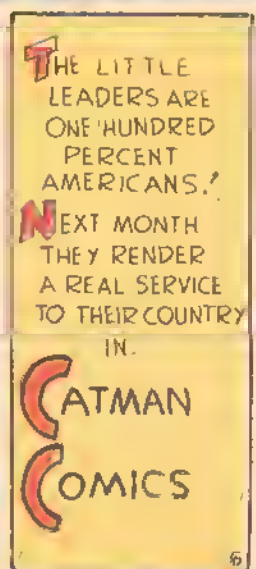
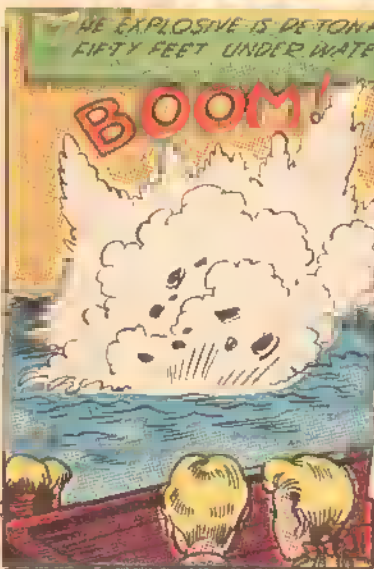
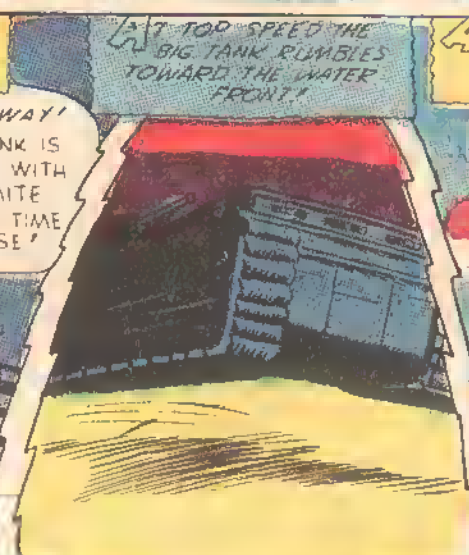
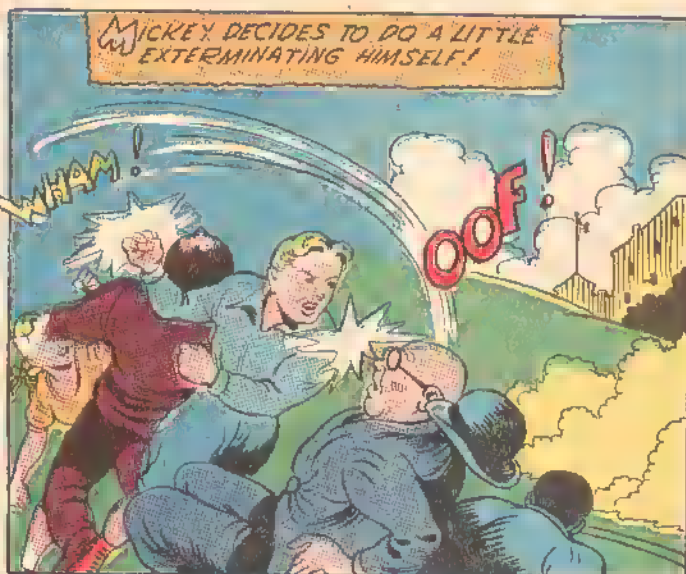
AND THE MAYOR IS ABOUT TO START HIS SPEECH, WE'VE GOT TO ACT QUICK!

RIGHT BEHIND YOU, MICKEY CARRY ON!

WE MAY RUN INTO SOME OPPOSITION - WATCH OUT!



NEXT MORNING



THE HOOD



and the "Cry of the KILLER-BEASTS"

Drawn by JACK ALDERMAN
Written by JACK GROGAN

A PACK OF VICIOUS BLOOD FANGED CANINE KILLERS UNLEASHED UPON THE CIVILIAN POPULATION OF AMERICA! SOUNDS FANTASTIC, DOESN'T IT? BUT SUPPOSE IT REALLY HAPPENED? WHO COULD COMBAT SUCH A HORRIBLE MENACE? READ ON, AND LEARN WHO STIFLED

"THE CRY OF THE KILLER BEASTS"



IT ALL BEGAN ON THE DAY THAT HIROHITO CALLED UP HITLER... THE JAP EMPEROR SEEMED TO BE VERY WORRIED.

LISTEN, HONORABLE PARTNER, I'M MUCH WORRIED. TOJO SAYS HONORABLE AXIS MUST THROW SCARE INTO UNITED STATES HE HAS PLAN HE SAYS WILL DO TRICK AND DESTROY AMERICA!

JA! JA! MINE LEEDLE BROWN FRIEND. UND VAT IES DISS PLAN OF TOJOS?

VAT? VAT? JA! JA! IT ISS MORE THEN GOOT. IT ISS PERFECT! JA! I CONTACT HIM RIGHT AWAY! JA! GOOD-BYE! BANZAI! HEY! WHAT AM I SAYING!

NEXT MORNING A SPECIAL PLANE ARRIVES FROM THE BLACK FORESTS OF GERMANY CARRYING A STRANGE MAN WHO HAS AN APPOINTMENT WITH HITLER

AH! SO YOU HAFF ARRIVED! COME SIT DOWN OBERMANN!

HEIL! HITLER!

YOU HAFF BROUGHT A SAMPLE OF IT, JA?

JA! MEIN FUHRER! I WILL HAVE HIM BROUGHT IN AT VUNCE!

DONNERVETTER! SUCH A BEAST! DON'T LET HIM COME NEAR ME!

HAFF NO FEAR, MIEN FUHRER! HE WILL NOT HARM YOU, AS LONG AS I AM IN THE ROOM... BUT IF I SHOULD LEAVE!

TAKE DEM AWAY! TAKE DEM AWAY! DER PLAN IS GOOT! ONLY TAKE DEM AWAY!

VERY WELL, MEIN FUHRER, I SHALL PROCEED IMMEDIATELY WITH DER PLANS!

HIMMEL! SUCH AN EXPERIENCE! EVERYTHING HAS TO HAPPEN TO ME! SOMETIMES I WISH I WAS A HOUSE PAINTER AGAIN!



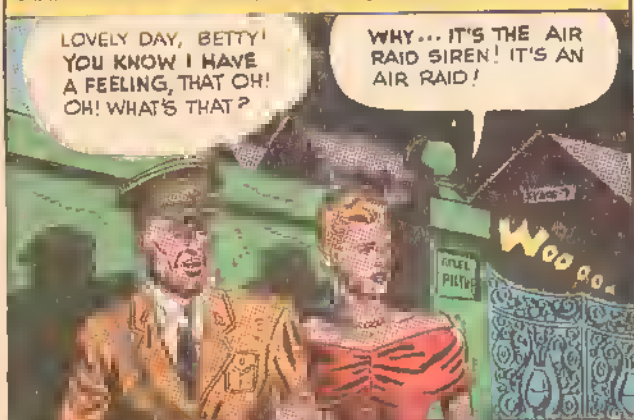
SOON, FRITZ, OUR CHANCE WILL COME TO PROVE TO THE WORLD THAT OUR VICIOUS DOGS ARE BETTER FIGHTERS THAN THE MOST HIGHLY TRAINED SOLDIERS!



SEVERAL WEEKS LATER IN HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA WHERE MAJ. CRAIG WILLIAMS (THE HOOD) IS VISITING!

LOVELY DAY, BETTY! YOU KNOW I HAVE A FEELING, THAT OH! OH! WHAT'S THAT?

WHY... IT'S THE AIR RAID SIREN! IT'S AN AIR RAID!



I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO MY POST AT THE FIELD. I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE AT ONCE!

GOOD-BYE CRAIG, AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF!



MEANWHILE HIGH OVERHEAD DRONE THE MOTORS OF AN ENEMY AIR ARMADA....



IT'S THE ENEMY ALLRIGHT! BUT LOOK... THEY'RE JUNKERS AND MITSUBISHI TRANSPORTS! THEY'RE NOT ARMED! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THIS, ANYHOW?

SHALL I GIVE THE ORDERS TO FIRE SIR?



THE ORDER IS INTERRUPTED FOR AT THAT MOMENT MAJ. WILLIAMS DASHES UP!

HOLD YOUR FIRE!
THOSE PLANES ARE
NOT BOMBERS! SEND
UP INTERCEPTORS!
... FIND OUT WHAT
THEIR GAME IS!

RIGHT! MAJOR!
I'LL ... HEY, HOLD
EVERYTHING!
LOOK!



GREAT HEAVENS!
IT CAN'T BE! NO!
NO! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

IT'S FANTASTIC!
UTTERLY FANTASTIC!
OPEN FIRE!



UTTERLY FANTASTIC ARE HARDLY THE WORDS TO DESCRIBE THE AWE INSPIRING SPECTACLE! DOWN FROM THE SKIES COMES THE LATEST FORM OF HITLER'S TERROR WEAPONS.



THEY'RE OUT OF
RANGE, SIR! OUR
INSTRUMENTS INDI-
CATE THAT THEY WILL
FALL IN THE HOLLYWOOD
AREA!

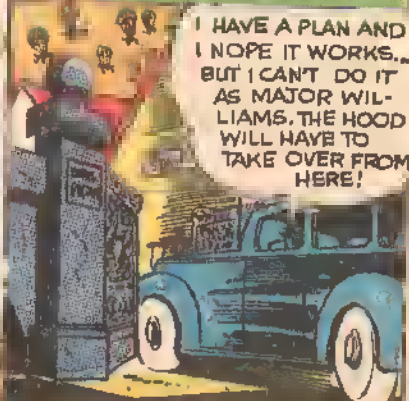


CAPTAIN BARTON? HERE ARE YOUR
ORDERS! FOLLOW THEM TO THE
LETTER... CONCENTRATE YOUR
FIRE ON THE TRANSPORTS... BRING
THEM DOWN... THEN SEND UP A
GROUP OF FIGHTERS! I'M GOING
DIRECTLY TO HOLLYWOOD!



RACING AGAINST TIME, MAJ. WILLIAMS
SENDS HIS STAFF CAR HURTLING
ALONG THE ROAD TO HOLLYWOOD.

PUTTING ON A TREMENDOUS
BURST OF SPEED, HE ENTERS THE
MOVIE CAPITAL SOON...



I HAVE A PLAN AND
I HOPE IT WORKS...
BUT I CAN'T DO IT
AS MAJOR WILLIAMS.
THE HOOD
WILL HAVE TO
TAKE OVER FROM
HERE!

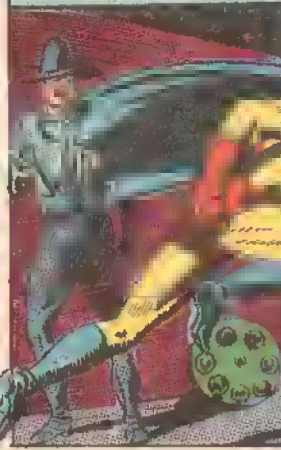
THE TERRORIZED PEOPLE FLEE IN FRENZY BEFORE THE AVALANCHE OF WOLF-DOGS FROM THE SKY...



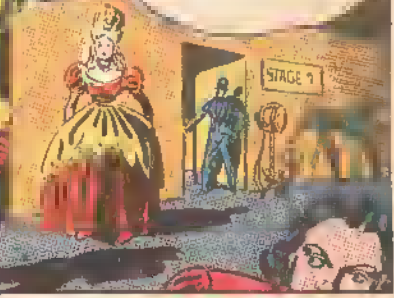
DASHING INTO THE MIST OF THE FALLING, SNARLING DOGS, THE HOOD VALIANTLY ATTEMPTS TO STEM THEIR VICIOUS ATTACK...



THE HOOD DASHES INTO A MOVIE STUDIO BUILDING NEAR-BY.



I'VE GOT TO FIND THE STUDIO SOUND ENGINEER... BUT QUICK!



MEANWHILE THE PACK OF HOWLING CREATURES ROAM ALL OVER THE LOT STALKING THEIR PREY...



THE HOOD FINALLY LOCATES THE MAN HE IS LOOKING FOR.

QUICK! MAN! HAVE YOU A SOUND RECORDING OF A WOLF CRY?

A WOLF CRY? SURE... IT'S OUT HERE IN THE LAB!

WE'VE GOT TO HURRY... NOT ONLY DO I NEED A RECORDING OF THE CRY OF A WOLF... BUT I NEED A SOUND TRUCK AS WELL! CAN YOU GET THEM FOR ME?

YES! SURE! FOLLOW ME RIGHT DOWN THIS CORRIDOR!



THE HOOD GETS INTO THE SOUND
TRUCK AND ROARS AWAY...

IF THIS DOESN'T WORK...
WELL...

SOUND TRUCK
PICTURES, INC.

AS HE HEARS THE KILLER
BEASTS, THE HOOD TURNS
ON THE LOUD SPEAKER....

I HAVE A HUNCH THIS
WILL DO THE TRICK!
WELL HERE GOES!

Woooo

THE DOGS, ATTRACTED BY THE
WEIRD CALL OF THE WOLF,
RUSH PELL MELL AFTER THE
SOURCE OF THE CRY....

NOW IF I CAN GET THESE
MUTTS UP ON A CLIFF THE
ARMORED DIVISION WILL
DO THE REST!

Wooooooo

MEANWHILE THE TROOPS STOP AT THE STUDIO GROUNDS
AND INQUIRE FOR THE WHEREABOUTS OF MAJ. WILLIAMS.

WE HAVEN'T SEEN HIM...
BUT THE HOOD WAS
HERE, AND HE'S HEAO-
ING IN THE DIRECTION
OF MALIBU CLIFF!

THANKS!

ARMORED
DIVISION

THE HOOD AIMS THE TRUCK DIRECTLY TO
WARO THE CLIFF WITH THE DOGS IN HOT PURSUIT.

WELL, IF THIS FAILS,
IT'S GOOD-BYE
TO THE HOOD!

Woooo

SWERVING SHARPLY, THE HOOD LEAPS
CLEAR OFF THE TRUCK JUST IN TIME AS
THE HOWLING DOGS FOLLOW THE SOUND
OF THE WOLF....

Jack Alderman

Wooooooo

THAT NIGHT
MAJOR WILLIAMS AND
BETTY LOU DISCUSS THE DAYS
STRENUOUS ACTIVITIES....

IT CERTAINLY WAS WONDER-
FUL NOW THE HOOD STEPPED
IN AT THE RIGHT MOMENT AND
CLEANED UP THE WHOLE SI-
TUATION... CAN YOU IMAGINE
WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED
IF THE DOGS WERE ALLOWED
TO GO UNMOLESTED!

HE SURE MUST BE
A WONDERFUL MAN
I CERTAINLY WOULD
LIKE TO MEET HIM!

WHO
KNOWS!
MAYBE
SOME
DAY YOU
WILL!

I CAN WELL IMAGINE... BUT
THE ARRIVAL OF THE ARMORED
DIVISION DID THE TRICK...
THEY MACHINE GUN...
THE REST!

APLOGIES TO MISS RAY HERMANN

KIDS! DON'T MISS
NEXT MONTHS ADVENTURE
of "The Hood" in
CATMAN COMICS

"BLACKOUT"



WHEN BLACKOUT COMES TO THE AID OF THE FRENCH UNDERGROUND TO STAMP OUT THE MENACE OF BARON VON RICHTOFEN JR AND HIS PROGRAM OF TERROR, THINGS BEGIN TO POP WHEN HAPPY STEPS IN TO HELP HIS CHIEF!

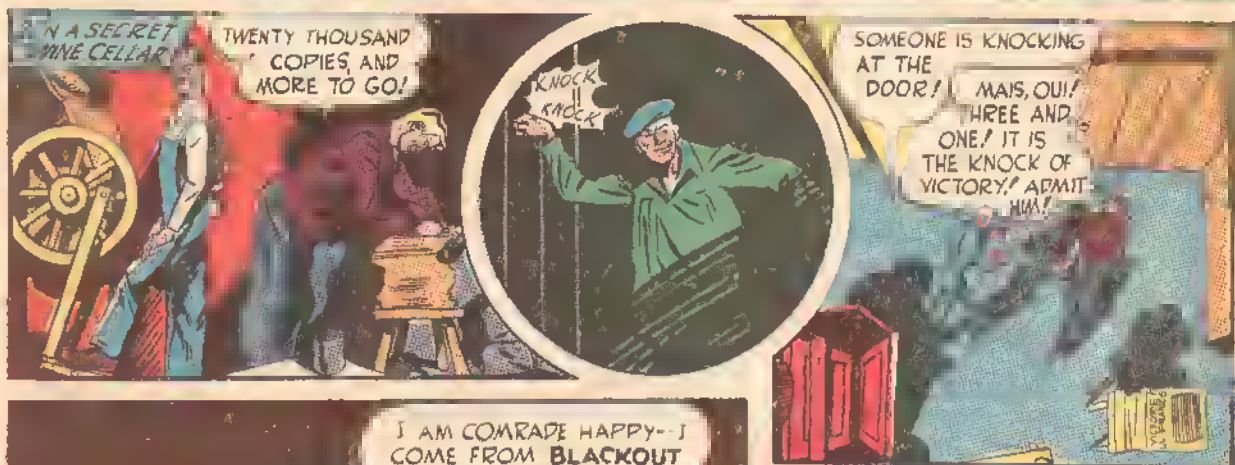
HITLER'S PRIVATE OFFICE IN BERLIN



VON RICHTOFEN, I'VE SENT FOR YOU BECAUSE I HAFF AN IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENT!



YOU ARE TO GO TO PARIS AT ONCE!- DER UNDERGROUND IS STARTING UP TROUBLE! YOU VILL WAIT UNTIL YOU RECIEVE ORDERS FROM ME PERSON-ALLY!



I WILL STAY IN THE TOWERS OF NOTRE DAME UNTIL I HEAR FROM **BLACKOUT**! I WILL BE SAFE THERE!-- THE LEGEND OF THE ILL-FATED HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME STILL LINGERS---

A GOOD IDEA!

A GERMAN AIR OFFICERS' QUARTERS-- AND DIRECTLY 'DOWNSTAIRS'-- AND--AND--**VON RICHTOFTEN**! HE'S WITH THEM! **BLACKOUT** MUST HEAR OF THIS IMMEDIATELY!

IS HE RECEIVING THE MESSAGE?

OUI!

FAR AWAY IN GERMANY, THE OCCUPANT OF A LONE FOCKE-WULF 190 HEARS NEWS AND---

SO **VON RICHTOFTEN** HAS ARRIVED IN PARIS ALREADY, EH?

SOME DAY THE BELLS OF NOTRE DAME WILL RING FOR FREEDOM! THEN-- WHAT'S THAT?

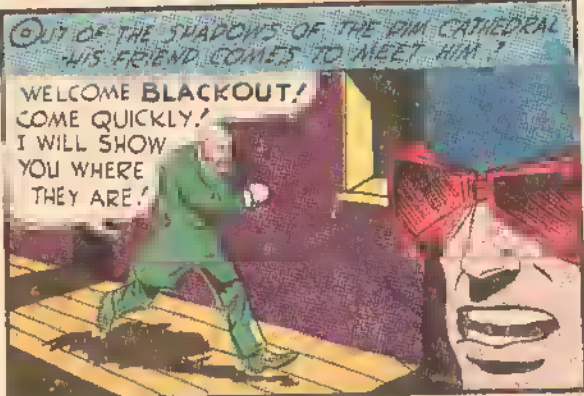
AND **BLACKOUT** CLIMBING HIGH INTO THE NIGHT, HEADS STRAIGHT FOR PARIS!



NO LANDS UNHOLESTED ON THE PARIS FLYING FIELD, AT LE BOURG

MOMENTS LATER, A FAMILIAR RED-GOGGLED FIGURE RUNS INTO THE FAMOUS OLD CATHEDRAL!

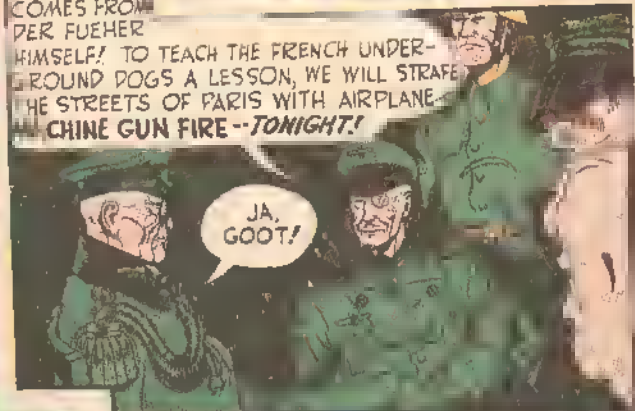
MADE IT... WITHOUT BEING SPOTTED! NOW TO FIND HAPPY!



OUT OF THE SHADOWS OF THE VIM CATHEDRAL HIS FRIEND COMES TO MEET HIM!

WELCOME **BLACKOUT!** COME QUICKLY! I WILL SHOW YOU WHERE THEY ARE!

THE PLAN IS SIMPLE! IT COMES FROM PER FUEHR HIMSELF! TO TEACH THE FRENCH UNDER-ROUND DOGS A LESSON, WE WILL STRAFE THE STREETS OF PARIS WITH AIRPLANE-CHINE GUN FIRE--TONIGHT!



JA, GOOT!



WELL, HAPPY--THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO BREAK UP THIS LITTLE GATHERING! HERE GOES!

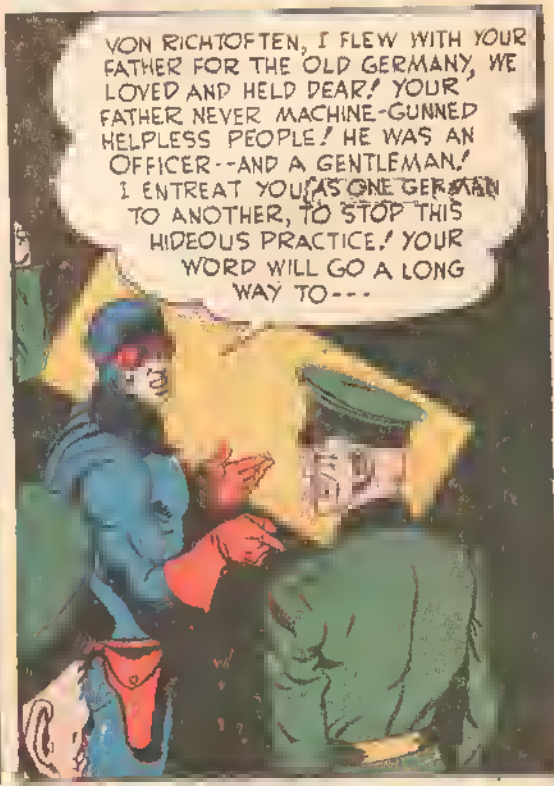
WITH THE AGILITY OF A CAT **BLACKOUT** LEAPS DOWN ON THE ASTONISHED GROUP!

ONE MOMENT GENTLEMEN!

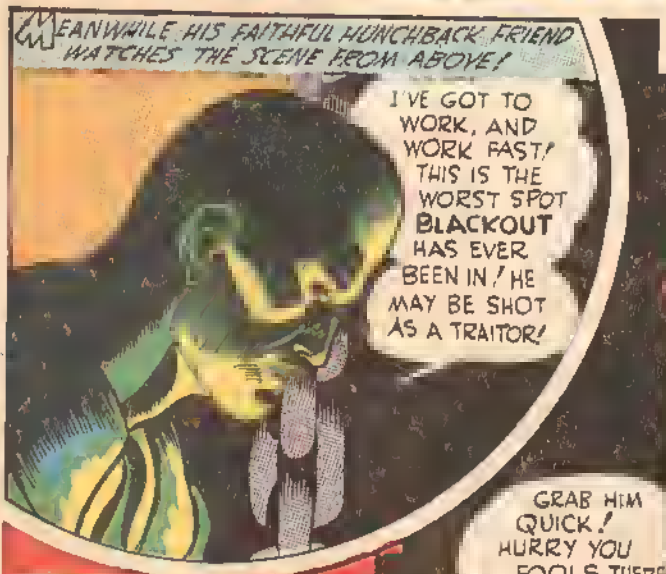
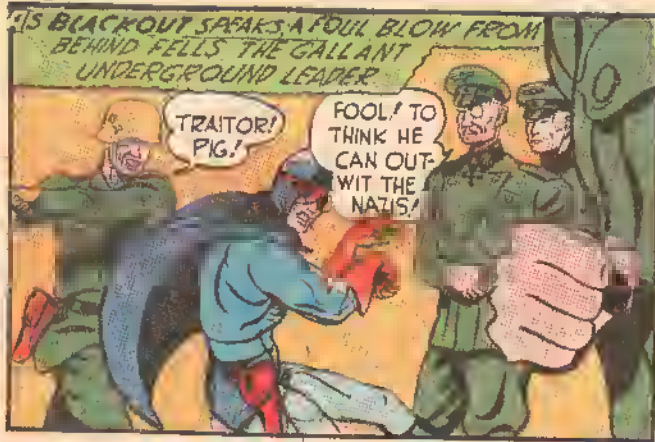


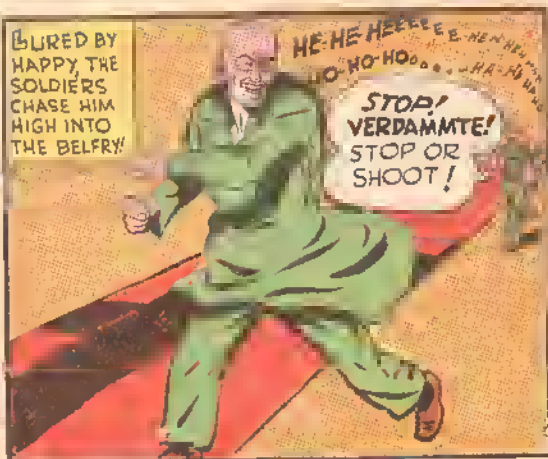
HIMMEL! IT IS **BLACKOUT!**

WHA-- WHA--



VON RICHTOFTEN, I FLEW WITH YOUR FATHER FOR THE OLD GERMANY, WE LOVED AND HELD DEAR! YOUR FATHER NEVER MACHINE-GUNNED HELPLESS PEOPLE! HE WAS AN OFFICER--AND A GENTLEMAN! I ENTREAT YOU, AS ONE GERMAN TO ANOTHER, TO STOP THIS HIDEOUS PRACTICE! YOUR WORD WILL GO A LONG WAY TO---

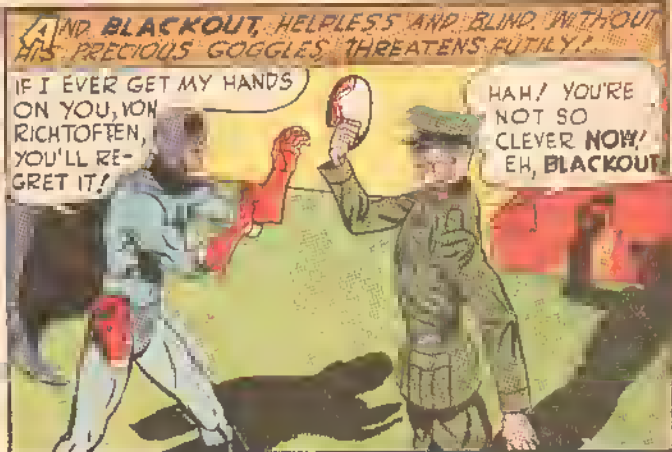




BLURED BY HAPPY, THE SOLDIERS CHASE HIM HIGH INTO THE BELFRY!

HE-HE-HEEE! E-HEN-HEN-HEN!
HO-HO-HO... HA-HA-HA!

STOP!
VERDAMMTE!
STOP OR
SHOOT!



IF I EVER GET MY HANDS
ON YOU, VON
RICHTOFTEN,
YOU'LL RE-
GRET IT!

HAH! YOU'RE
NOT SO
CLEVER NOW!
EH, BLACKOUT!



HIGHER AND HIGHER, HAPPY LURES THE
SOLDIERS TO THE VERY ROOF...

I THINK I CAN
LOSE THESE MEN
IN A CORRIDOR!
I'VE GOT TO
GET TO THE
ROOF WHERE
I HAVE THAT
HOT LUM!

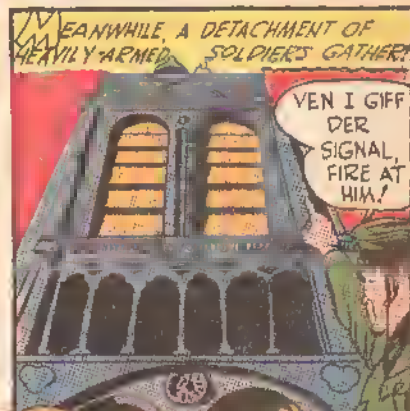
GO DOWN! ASSEMBLE
A FORCE OF MEN,
SURROUND THE
CATHEDRAL!

JA, MEIN
LIEUTENANT!



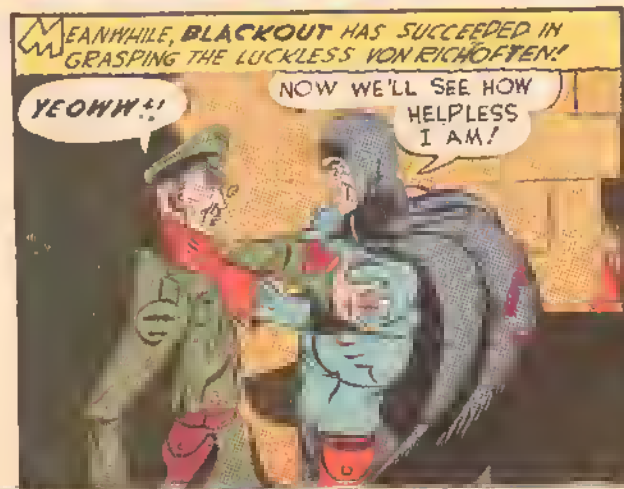
LOSING THE SOLDIERS IN A MAZE OF CORRIDORS,
HAPPY COMES OUT ON THE GREAT ROOF!

LOST 'EM!
HERE'S THE
CHANCE
I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR!



MEANWHILE, A DETACHMENT OF
HEAVILY ARMED SOLDIERS GATHER!

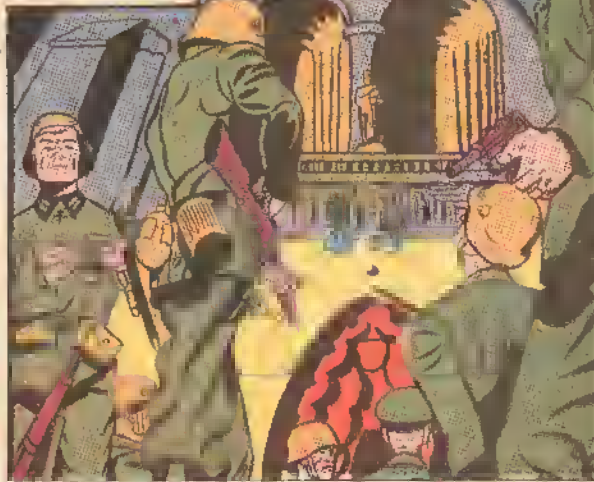
VEN I GIFF
DER
SIGNAL,
FIRE AT
HIM!



MEANWHILE, BLACKOUT HAS SUCCEEDED IN
GRASPING THE LUCKLESS VON RICHTOFTEN!

YEOWW!!

NOW WE'LL SEE HOW
HELPLESS
I AM!



POSSESSING HIS PRECIOUS GOGGLES ONCE MORE, **BLACKOUT** LASHES OUT WITH FURY AT **VON RICHOTEN**!

SO YOU THINK
HAT YOU NAZIS
RULE
THE
WORLD?
EH?



NOW!



OF LOST SOLDIERS WHO ARE PURSUING **HAPPY**!



HE
CRIES
ACROSS
THE GROUP

WHILE ON THE ROOF OF THE CHURCH, **HAPPY** IS BUSY AT WORK!

HERE'S A
LITTLE
PRESENT
FOR YOU
RATZIS!



THEIR MISSION COMPLETED, **BLACKOUT** AND **HAPPY** SUCCEED IN MAKING GOOD THEIR ESCAPE!

WELL **HAPPY**-- THAT'LL
HOLD THOSE PIGS
WHILE! NO
IF WE CAN
ONLY FIGURE
OUT SOME
WAY TO
TO DESTROY
THE
LUFTWAFFE
IN
FRANCE!

I'M WITH
YOU IN
ANYTHING
YOU SAY,
BLACKOUT



YOU'RE IN FOR A LOT OF SURPRISES WHEN **BLACKOUT** COMES FACE TO FACE WITH THE STRANGEST KILLER ON EARTH IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF ---

CAT-MAN

The RAGMAN

Starring
"TINY"
Six Feet of
Dynamite



STORY AND ART
BY HERMAN C.
BROWNER.

BREAKING THE MONOTONY OF ROUTINE NEWS ITEMS--A REPORT OF THE EXISTENCE OF GHOSTS IN A NEARBY MILLIONAIRE'S MANSION AFFORDS A WELCOME RELIEF! UNABLE TO RESIST THE TEMPTATION TO FOLLOW UP THIS UNIQUE LEAD THE RAGMAN HIMSELF DECIDES TO BECOME A HUNTER OF THE SPIRITUAL PHENOMENA."

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICES OF THE
MAINTOWN "SENTINEL."

"THIS JUST CAME OVER
THE WIRE." THE CITY
DESK THOUGHT YOU
MIGHT BE INTERESTED."

"THANK'S
BILL."

A DEAD MAN IN
A HAUNTED HOUSE!
WE HAVEN'T HAD
THIS IN AGES!"

NOW DON'T GO
MESSIN' ROUND
WID NO GHOSTS
MISTAH RAGMAN!
HE IS GOIN' UP-
TOWN--OR IS HE?"



THE SAME NIGHT--

IF IT'S ALL BE
SAME TO YOU
SUN, I'LL WAIT
HERE!

AL RIGHT TINY!
GIVE ME A HAND
OVER THE GATE!
I WON'T BE
GONE LONG!



EVERY LOOKING PLACE,--
IT'S A LONG TIME SINCE
HEN MILFORD DIED HERE!
FUNNY THAT HE WAITED SO
LONG TO HAUNT IT!



BUT IT WAS NICE OF HIS
NEPHEW TO CO-OPERATE
BY GIVING ME THE KEY--
NOW LET'S SEE WHAT MAKES
A GHOST!



AFTER INSPECTING THE MANSION, THE
RAGMAN RETURNS TO THE HUGE MAIN HALL

NOT A GHOST IN A
CARLOAD. EVERYTHING
SHIP-SHAPE! STILL
A HALF HOUR TILL
MIDNIGHT!



HOPE! DON'T FALL ASLEEP
WHILE WAITING FOR OUR ASTRAL
VISITOR!



BUT TIRED OUT FROM HIS LONG
DRIVE TO THE MILFORD MANSION,
RAGMAN SUCSUMBS TO THE
OPPRESSING STILLNESS AND
DOZES OFF--!

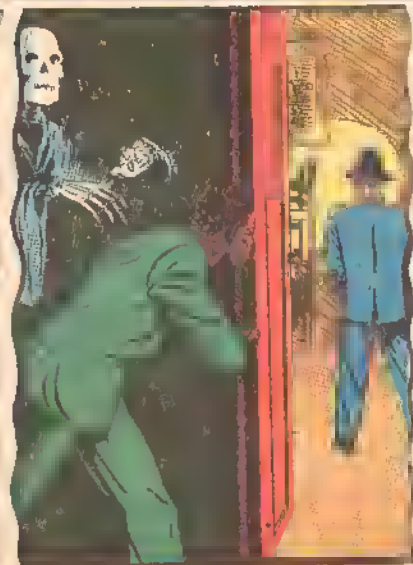
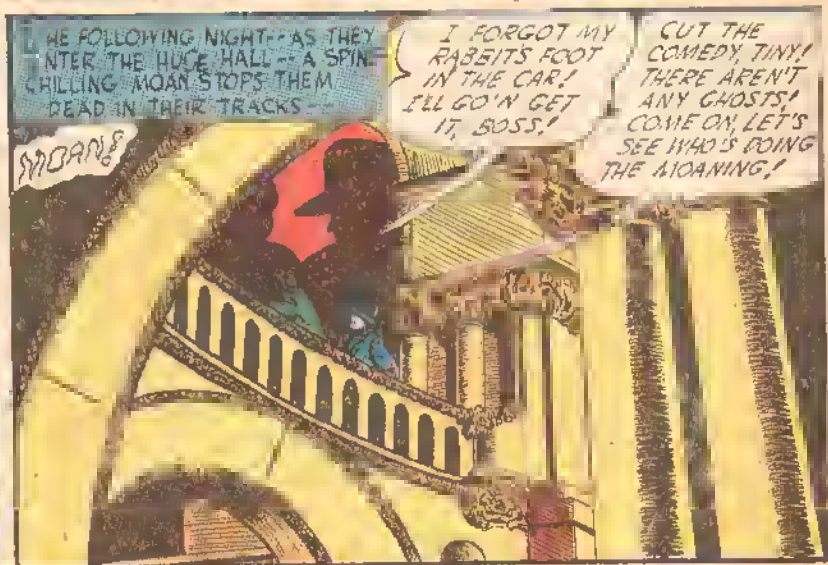


UH-OH--I MUST HAVE FALLEN
ASLEEP! WHAT WAS THAT--?
MY GUN IS GONE--AND SO IS THE
FLASH AND THE KEYS--



I MUST BE SLIPPING! I'LL
HOP OUT AND GET ANOTHER
TORCH FROM THE CAR!--HEY--
THIS DOOR IS OPENING BY
ITSELF!





YOU CAN COME IN NOW, TINY!
THERE IS NO ONE HERE!
HEY TINY! --- COME ON!
NOBODY WILL BITE YOU!
---HEY TINY--- KHM---MAYBE
HE RAN OFF AGAIN!



AFTER A FRUITLESS SEARCH
FOR TINY THE PUZZLED RAG-
MAN RETURNS TO THE MAIN HALL!

SOMETHING SCREWY GOING ON
HERE! I'M SURE TINY MUST BE
SOMEWHERE IN THE BUILDING!
---OH---HELLO! NICE OF YOU TO
COME! ---WHAT DID YOU DO
WITH MY PARTNER?



IF YOU VALUE
HIS LIFE--GO--
NEVER TO
RETURN!

SO YOU
CAN TALK
TOO! LET'S
SEE WHETHER
YOU ARE IM-
PREGNABLE TO
BULLETS!



WELL I'LL BE!----
IT DISAPPEARED!



THIS OLD HOUSE
MUST BE HONEY-COMBED
WITH SLIDING PANELS AND
SECRET PASSAGES--OH-OH-
SOUNDS HALLOW!



AHA! THROUGH
THESE SILENT
PORTALS THE
GHOST WENT
WEST!



THEN, AS THE RAGMAN TOUCHES A
SWITCH ON THE WALL, A CONCEALED
BELL STARTS RINGING LOUDLY!



OH--OH!

RRR

UNFAMILIAR WITH THE MECHANISM
OF THE SECRET PANEL--THE
RAGMAN CANNOT PREVENT IT
FROM SNAPPING SHUT---

NOW, MY STRATEGIC RETREAT
IS CUT OFF! LET'S SEE WHERE
THIS LEADS TO!---



IT'S YOU
AGAIN!

ENOUGH
OF YOUR
MEDDLING?
I'LL GET YOU
NOW!



THAT'S IF I DON'T
GET YOU FIRST!



AS THEY STRUGGLE IN THE DARKNESS, THE RAGMAN IS KNOCKED TO THE FLOOR AND LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS---



A SHORT TIME LATER--

IS YOU ALL RIGHT BOSS? I DON TOL' YOU, WE SHOULDN'T HAVE COME HEAH!

SH, KEEP STILL! I'LL TRY TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO GET RID OF THESE ROPES! CAN YOU TURN AROUND?



O.K. BOSS! MY HANDS ARE LOOSE!



RE-ARRANGING THEIR BONDS, THE TWO PRISONERS AWAIT DEVELOPEMENTS! ---

HERE THEY ARE! ALL READY!



YOU BET WE ARE!--NOW WE'LL DO A LITTLE GHOSTING OURSELVES!



HARRY MILFORD!! HEY! WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS??

OUR SHOW SEEMS TO BE OVER! TOO BAD! WE MEANT NO HARM! TELL YOUR FACTOTUM TO EASE UP ON... FOR UNCLE BEN!!

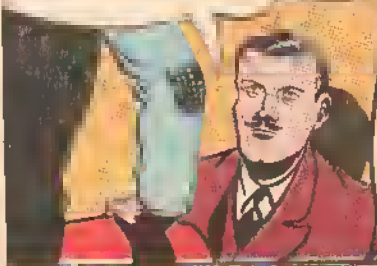


YOUR UNCLE BEN? I UNDERSTOOD YOU TO SAY HE WAS DEAD!

BAH! --DEAD!-- I'LL OUTLIVE ALL OF YOU! GO AHEAD HARRY! YOU MIGHT AS WELL TELL THEM NOW!



MANY YEARS AGO, TOM MILFORD TRIED TO HAVE UNCLE BEN WHO IS A LITTLE ECCENTRIC, DECLARED INSANE, AND PUT AWAY IN AN INSTITUTION TO GET CONTROL OF THE FAMILY FORTUNE! WHEN THE SCHEME FAILED, UNCLE BEN BECAME DEADLY SICK, AND TO THIS DAY IS CONVINCED HIS BROTHER TOM TRIED TO KILL HIM! -- UNCLE BEN DECIDED TO DISAPPEAR---



BUT WHY ALL THIS GHOST RIGAMAROLE?

I'M COMING TO THAT! UN-SUCCESSFUL IN HIS ATTEMPTS TO GET HOLD OF THE MONEY, TOM LEFT FOR SOUTH AMERICA! I WIRED UNCLE BEN TO COME BACK! HE DID SO, AND PRETENDING TO BE THE CHRETKER, LIVED HERE UNMOLESTED WITH HIS BELOVED BOOKS.



YOU SURE
YOU AIN'T
NO GHOST
MISTAH BEN?
HA, HA! NOT I!
HARRY WAS THE
GHOST! - TOM
RETURNED AND
WAS SEEN IN THE
VILLAGE! I KNEW
HE BELIEVED IN
MORTALLY AFRAID OF
GHOSTS, - SO WE HIT UPON
THIS IDEA TO KEEP HIM
AWAY FROM HERE!



BUT WHY DID
YOU PERMIT
ME TO
INVESTIGATE? WE COULD HAVE
CONVINCED YOU
THAT THE MANSION
WAS REALLY HAUNTED
YOU WOULD HAVE MADE
IT OFFICIAL, SO TO SPEAK
BY WRITING ABOUT IT IN
YOUR PAPER! THIS WOULD
KEEP TOM AWAY FOREVER!
-- WHAT CAN WE DO
NOW?



THE NEXT MORNING - - -

EXCENTRIC MILLIONAIRE RETURNS TO OLD FAMILY MANSION

AFTER AN ABSENCE OF MORE
THAN 4 YEARS, BEN MILFORD,
RETIRED INDUSTRIALIST, HAS
ONCE AGAIN TAKEN UP RESID-
ENCE AT THE MILFORD HOUSE!
IT IS RUMORED THAT UNCLE
BEN, WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE
IN BANKS, HAS THE ENTIRE
FAMILY FORTUNE HID AWAY
WITHIN THE MANSION WALLS
OF THE 100 YEAR OLD BUILDING!

BROTHER TOM CERTAINLY
MEANS BUSINESS! THAT'S
TONY CORFATI, JACK HOGAN'S
TORPEDO!

WE KNOW TOM
IS HERE! BUT
HE WOULDN'T
DARE TO COME
TO THE HOUSE!
HAVE PATIENCE
UNCLE BEN!
THE TRAP
IS BAITED
AND I'M SURE
HE'LL BITE!



GOON THINGS BEGAN TO
HAPPEN - -

HERE THEY
COME, TINY!
MAN YOUR
BATTLE
STATIONS!



GET OUT OF
MY HOUSE!
YOU ARE
WASTING
YOUR TIME!
I WON'T
GIVE YOU
A CENT!
I KNOW YOU
WON'T ALIVE!
I HAVE AN
IDEA WHERE
YOU HOARD
YOUR DOUGH!
TONY'LL TAKE
CARE OF YOU---



STILL BETTER!
I'LL DO IT
MYSELF WITH
PLEASURE!



THAT WAS A
CLOSE CALL!
THE LAST ONE
YOU'LL MAKE
FOR SOME TIME,
BROTHER TOM!



TOO BAD UNCLE BEN
LET TOM GO! I PROMISED
NOT TO PUBLISH THE STORY!
OH, WELL -- THERE GOES A
GOOD YARN!



WATCH FOR THE NEXT
RAGMAN ADVENTURE in
JANUARY CATMAN COMICS!!